GUIDE TO POST-SECONDARY PROGRAMS FOR:

1. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
2. SPECIAL EDUCATION/ REHABILITATION PERSONNEL

Alberta
ADVANCED EDUCATION/EDUCATION

in cooperation with
the **Provincial Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Coordinating Committee**

August 1986

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

Introduction 1

I. Coordination of the Transition to Programs and Services for Disabled Adults 4

II. Post-Secondary Education Programs Designed for Students With Disabilities 10

2.1 Academic Upgrading for the Hearing Impaired 11
2.2 Community Enrichment Project 12
2.3 Transitional/Vocational Programs 13

III. Support Services 15

3.1 Institutional Programs and Services 15

3.1.1 Centre of Educational Interpreting Program. 16
3.1.2 Special Support and Counselling Units 17

3.2 Departmental Programs and Services 19

3.2.1 Career Centres 20
3.2.2 Further Education Services 23
3.2.3 Student Finance Board 24
3.2.4 Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Persons (VRDP) Program 25

IV. Career Training For Special Education and Rehabilitation Personnel 26

4.1 Interpreter Training Program 27
4.2 Occupational Therapy 28
4.3 Physical Therapy 29
4.4 Rehabilitation Services Programs 30
4.5 Rehabilitation Studies Program 32
4.6 Rural Special Education Outreach Project 33
4.7 Speech Pathology and Audiology 34
4.8 Teachers of the Hearing Impaired 35
4.9 Teachers of the Multiple Dependent Handicapped 36

V. Related Activities of Other Government Departments 37

5.1 Alberta Manpower 37
5.2 Alberta Social Services 38
5.3 Canada Employment and Immigration 39

Attachments:

Alberta Education News Release, September 13, 1983.
Terms of Reference, Regional Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee.

INTRODUCTION

As the age of transition between secondary schooling and higher education or employment is reached, some students with disabilities may require special assistance to take advantage of the post-secondary educational and vocational training opportunities available. Recognizing the special needs of students with disabilities, the Alberta Government has established a network of programs and services to enable persons with disabilities make the transition from school to adult living and work.

Responsibility for funding of government programs and services within this network is shared between the Departments of Advanced Education, Education, Manpower*, and Social Services as specified in a September 13, 1983 News Release (see Appendices). Alberta Education has the responsibility for funding education programs for students up to the age of 18, or longer as determined by local school jurisdictions.

Post-secondary programs and support services for adult students who are educably handicapped, as well as career training for special education teachers and other rehabilitation personnel, are the responsibility of Alberta Advanced Education. Alberta Manpower coordinates the delivery of

---

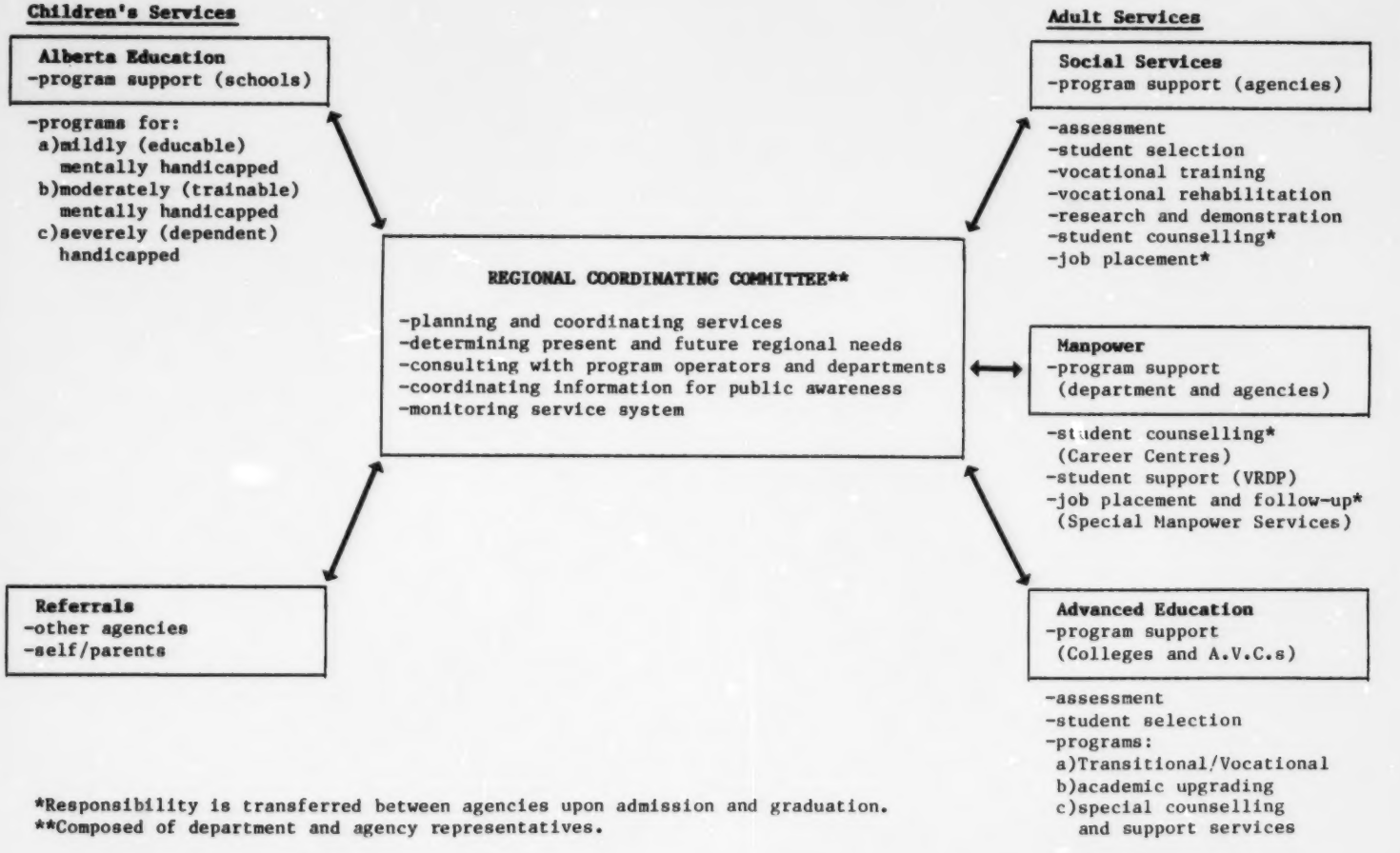
*At the time of publication of this guide, legislation was under review recommending a Departmental title change from Alberta Manpower to Alberta Career Development and Employment.

employment and career development services, to which persons with disabilities have general and special/specific accessibility. Alberta Social Services endeavors to ensure a comprehensive system of rehabilitation programs and services for persons with moderate to severe disabilities.

This network of programs and services for students with disabilities is coordinated by Regional Interdepartmental Coordinating Committees for the Education and Training of Disabled Adults. A visual display of the Committee's role within the broad spectrum of government activity is provided on the following page.

This guide is designed to highlight post-secondary programs and services as they relate to the broader network of activities established through the Government for disabled Albertans who may experience difficulty reaching their full potential in education, training and employment. It is hoped that as an information resource guide, this booklet will be used to assist young people with disabilities to participate in special post-secondary programs or vocational training. This guide is also designed to assist special education teachers and rehabilitation personnel access various post-secondary program offerings in an effort to expand and upgrade the skills of professionals working with persons who are disabled.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED



*Responsibility is transferred between agencies upon admission and graduation.
**Composed of department and agency representatives.

I. COORDINATION OF THE TRANSITION TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR DISABLED ADULTS

Alberta Education provides special education funding to school jurisdictions in order to support the education of disabled students up to the age of 20 years. (School jurisdictions may, at their discretion, terminate special education services to students once they reach the age of 18.)

School jurisdictions will be assisted in providing and enhancing quality educational programs for children with special needs -- ranging from the severely multi-handicapped to gifted students -- by Alberta Education Response Centres. The Education Response Centres will be designed to coordinate and integrate the educational activities of the school jurisdictions, universities, colleges, agencies, and others involved in providing educational services to exceptional children and adults. (For further information on the Response Centres, please contact the office of the Education Response Centres Project at 427-6326).

When school jurisdictions have terminated services to adult disabled students, the responsibility for funding special education programs for these students no longer lies with Alberta Education. Post-school education/training programs and services for disabled adults are provided by agencies and post-secondary institutions funded by the Departments of Advanced Education, Manpower, and Social Services. Provision of these

programs and services is not mandatory, but depends upon funding, student demand, space available, and departmental priorities.

Regional Coordinating Committees:

Regional Coordinating Committees for the Education and Training of Disabled Adults were established in each of six regions in the Province in 1985 to assist the various government departments and agencies effectively plan for students making the transition from school to adult programs. (See Appendices for the Terms of Reference.) Each of the Committees is composed of representatives from Alberta Advanced Education, Alberta Education, Alberta Manpower and Alberta Social Services. In addition, several of the committees include representatives from school jurisdictions, local special interest groups and agencies that provide adult programs. The committees are chaired by a representative of the Department of Social Services.

Purpose:

The Regional Coordinating Committees are responsible for monitoring the program needs of students with disabilities, and coordinating interdepartmental involvement in government-supported programs that assist students make the transition from school to post-school education/training programs.

With the cooperation of local school jurisdictions, the Committees carry out the following primary objectives:

1. Obtain and share with the government departments and agencies responsible for provision of programs and services, an estimate of the number of students with disabilities who will be leaving school three or more years hence. Each fall this information is verified with school jurisdictions to determine the more specific post-school needs of students who will be making the transition to adult programs the following September;

2. Monitor the inventory of programs and spaces that are available for adults with disabilities; and,

3. Encourage information exchange and pre-graduation planning between students, teachers, parents and post-school program personnel.

Regional Coordination Process:

Each Regional Coordinating Committee serves several functions. The coordination process is carried out as follows:

1. School jurisdictions which intend to terminate services to adult disabled students are required to provide one year's notice of this decision to Alberta Education, the Regional Coordinating Committee,

the student, and his parent/guardian. Information provided by school jurisdictions specify the identity, age, and nature of the student's disability.

2. The Committee compiles the information provided by school jurisdictions regarding student program needs, and shares the information with the government departments and agencies involved in providing relevant programs and services. Agency representatives may contact the school jurisdiction and the student's parents in order to determine what further education training plans would be appropriate, considering the student's disability(ies) and needs.

3. The Committee makes recommendations to specific agencies and government departments offering programs to meet students' needs. Factors such as program availability and space are considered. The Committee's purpose is to assist in the overall coordination of programs and services, not to provide individual program planning.

4. Student admission to specific programs is determined by the education program or agency staff based on an application by the student/parent.

Contact Persons:

For further information about transitional planning, adult program services and local agencies providing adult programs, please contact the chairperson

of your Regional Coordinating Committee or the agencies providing services for adults with disabilities.

The chairpersons of the six Regional Coordinating Committees can be contacted at the following addresses or telephone numbers.

CHAIRPERSONS

REGIONAL INTERDEPARTMENTAL
COORDINATING COMMITTEES FOR THE
EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF DISABLED ADULTS

		PHONE:
CALGARY REGION:	Chairperson c/o Residential Resources Alberta Social Services 3rd Floor, Hillhurst Professional Building 301 - 14 Street N.W. Calgary, Alberta T2E 7S8	297-7584
CENTRAL REGION:	Chairperson c/o Consultation Services Unit Alberta Social Services 2nd Floor, Royal Trust Building 4814 Ross Street Red Deer, Alberta T4N 1X4	340-5473
EDMONTON REGION:	Chairperson c/o Community Resource Management Unit Alberta Social Services 7th Floor, 9942-108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2J5	427-3365
NORTHEAST REGION:	Chairperson c/o Consultation Services Unit Alberta Social Services Provincial Building, 3rd Floor (Box 2630) St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0	645-6228

		PHONE:
NORTHWEST REGION:	Chairperson c/o Consultation Services Unit Alberta Social Services 7th Floor, 214 Place #45, 9909-102 Street Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 2V4	538-5148
SOUTH REGION:	Chairperson c/o Program Support Services Unit Alberta Social Services Sun Centre Building 530-8th Street South Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 2J8	381-5500

II. POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS DESIGNED FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Many people with disabilities leave the basic education system without acquiring the requisite vocational and/or personal life skills for living independently. The Alberta Government and a number of post-secondary institutions recognize this as a concern and, in partial response, offer a continuum of specifically designed occupational, social, and personal skills programs to assist these students further develop their potential.

Programs:

2.1 Academic Upgrading for the Hearing Impaired - Manpower

2.2 Community Enrichment Project - Social Services

2.3 Transitional/Vocational Programs - Advanced Education

2.1 ACADEMIC UPGRADING FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
Alberta College

Program/Service Description:

The program provides persons with hearing impairments the opportunity to further develop their academic skills. The objective of the program is to increase career opportunities by assisting students obtain necessary educational prerequisites.

The program has two components: (1) general upgrading to the high school diploma level, and (2) business education. The latter includes the following topics of study: computer courses, data entry, typing and accounting. Business courses are provided in integrated classes; special support services are available.

Students who meet all course requirements receive a high school diploma or business certificate.

Eligibility Criteria:

Students must be:

1. a minimum of 18 years of age;
2. have a Grade 5 or 6 standing; and,
3. display competent sign language skills.

Cost to Student:

Tuition fees are covered through funding from either the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (VRDP) Program or Canada Manpower.

Contact Person:

Counsellor Referral Officer for Hearing Impaired
Alberta College
10041-101 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 0S3
427-5523

2.2 **COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROJECT**
Grant MacEwan Community College

Program/Service Description:

The Community Enrichment Project, funded by Alberta Social Services is designed to assist students with physical disabilities make the transition from school-age rehabilitation services to adult community living.

The program is highly individualized, stressing basic academics and independent living skills. The goal of the program is to provide students with the skills necessary for entrance into a post-secondary institution, and those necessary for independent living.

Participation in the program is divided into three phases:

- An initial assessment period, wherein students identify and appraise realistic personal goals for themselves.

- The negotiation of a contract between student and instructor to determine the best means of achieving set goals. A training allowance of $50.00 per contract period is allocated upon successful completion of contract work, and is used to assist the student with future program related activities.

- A follow-up phase conducted by the instructor. This varies in intensity, depending upon student progress after leaving the program.

The project may also be utilized as a resource centre for those students requiring only a minimal amount of counselling support.

Eligibility Criteria:

Students must be:

1. minimum of eighteen years of age;
2. physically disabled;
3. within normal intelligence range;
4. personally motivated to become more independent; and,
5. in good general health and have a means of communication (e.g. word-board, handi-voice).

Cost to Student:

The program is free of charge to qualified applicants.

Contact Person:

Supervisor
Community Enrichment Project
Grant MacEwan Community College
11728-Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5G 0X5
Ph: 452-3033

2.3 TRANSITIONAL/VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Program/Service Description:

Transitional/Vocational Programs provide employment preparation training for adults with mild developmental disabilities. The philosophy of the programs focuses on integration, the promotion of personal growth, and independence through competitive employment. Training is provided in work skills, work experience, and vocational academics and independent living skills.

Ten programs are offered through post-secondary institutions located throughout the Province.

Each program offers work skills training through both on and off campus work placements. The training provides students with experience in several work settings, exposure to appropriate work habits, and an awareness of employer expectations. Students are assisted in choosing a suitable area of work based on assessed skills, interests, aptitude, and employment availability.

The program provides approximately one year of training. In addition, assistance is provided with job placement and follow-up for six months to one year after graduation.

Eligibility Criteria:

Students must be 18 years of age or older and developmentally disabled (mildly mentally handicapped) as determined by a psycho-educational assessment.

Each program requires prospective students to attend an interview and assessment session. The assessment addresses functional ability, degree of disability, areas of interest and motivation.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

If required, students may apply for financial assistance through the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (VRDP) Program or the Students Finance Board.

Contact Persons:

For further information, contact the coordinator of the Transitional/Vocational Program at the following institutions:

	PHONE:
Alberta Vocational Centre 10215-108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1L6	427-5523

	PHONE:
Fairview College Box 3000 Fairview, Alberta T0H 1L0	835-6600 (Extension 213)
Grande Prairie Regional College Industrial Campus 10919-96 Avenue Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 3J4	539-2032
Keyano College 8115 Franklin Avenue Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 2H7	791-4812
Lakeland College 4420-50 Avenue Lloydminister, Alberta T9V 0W2	875-8828
Lethbridge Community College 3000 College Drive South Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 1L6	320-3306
Medicine Hat College 299 College Drive Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 3Y6	529-3811
Mount Royal College 4825 Richard Road S.W. Calgary, Alberta T3E 6K6	240-6872
Olds College Olds, Alberta T0M 1P0	556-8365
Red Deer College Red Deer, Alberta T4N 5H5	342-3115

III. SUPPORT SERVICES

The individual and personal nature of problems that students with disabilities experience, beyond general academic pressures, is recognized by the Alberta Government and the post-secondary institutions, and is addressed through the provision of a range of special support services and programs. In this section, the support services available are categorized according to source, these being:

3.1 Institutional Programs and Services

3.2 Departmental Programs and Services

3.1 INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Students with disabilities occassionally encounter learning or personal problems while attending a post-secondary institution. To address such potential problem areas, many of the institutions offer special counselling and information services.

While some institutions provide services as the need arises, others have developed a comprehensive range of special support services for students with disabilities.

Programs:

3.1.1 Centre of Educational Interpreting Program

3.1.2 Special Support and Counselling Units

3.1.1 CENTRE OF EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETING PROGRAM
Alberta College

Program/Service Description:

The service is designed to assist persons who are deaf or hearing impaired participate fully in community programs through the provision of sign language interpreters. Funding for the services is provided by the Departments of Advanced Education, Manpower, and Social Services.

Alberta Advanced Education funds that portion of the service which provides interpreters to students who are attending a post-secondary institution and are not eligible for VRDP support. Priority in allocating interpreter time is given to students who require training to secure or maintain employment.

Alberta Manpower funding ensures the service is extended to students receiving employment preparation training; Alberta Social Services funding allows the service to be utilized for legal, medical, and social service situations.

Eligibility Criteria:

Support services to students who are deaf or hearing impaired are not provided for recreational or religious functions.

Cost to Student:

There is no cost to the hearing impaired consumer, though agencies may be billed.

Contact Person:

Interpreter Referral Officer
Alberta College
10041 - 107 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 0S3
Ph: 428-1851 (TDD, Voice or M33)
424-6371 (M33)

3.1.2 SPECIAL SUPPORT AND COUNSELLING UNITS

Program/Service Description:

These programs are designed for students with physical and/or sensory disabilities who require special support in order to successfully participate in existing education programs.

The units generally provide special education support services in the form of: pre-employment and career counselling, communication with community support groups, academic counselling, and an orientation to the academic environment. Program modifications may also be advocated, which encompasses increasing the length of a program, and provide special equipment or personnel to record or interpret class material.

The level of special support and counselling services provided varies amongst the post-secondary institutions depending upon service demand. Grant MacEwan Community College, The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, The University of Alberta, and The University of Calgary offer comprehensive support units. Other institutions offer varying levels of support service.

Eligibility Criteria:

Persons with disabilities who are registered or anticipate registration at a particular educational institution should contact the institution well in advance to enquire about services available.

Contact Person:

	PHONE:
Counsellor Services to Disabled Students Student Services Alberta Vocational Centre 10215-108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1L6	427-9531
Chairperson Department of Student Development Student Services Grande Prairie Regional College 10726-106 Avenue Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 4C4	539-2929

	PHONE:
Counsellor Special Services for the Disabled Grant MacEwan Community College Jasper Place Campus 10045-156 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2P7	483-4490
Coordinator of Special Services Student Services Mount Royal College Calgary, Alberta T3E 6K6	240-6372
Coordinator Services to Disabled Students Unit Northern Alberta Institute of Technology 11762-106 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2R1	471-7551
Coordinator Services for Disabled Students Student Services Red Deer College Box 5005 Red Deer, Alberta T4N 5H5	342-3300 (Local 3165)
Counsellor for the Disabled Students Student Services Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Rm. M329, Heritage Hall 1301-16th Avenue N.W. Calgary, Alberta T2M 0L4	284-8821
Coordinator Services for the Disabled Office of the Dean of Student Affairs 225 Athabasca Hall The University of Alberta T6G 2E8	432-4145
Disabled Student Advisor Student Services The University of Calgary Science A 147 2500 University Drive N.W. Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4	220-6918

3.2 DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

In addition to the regular education programs provided, Alberta Advanced Education, Alberta Manpower and the post-secondary institutions provide financial and vocational counselling, continuing education, and support services for students who are disabled.

Programs:

3.2.1 Career Centres - Manpower

3.2.2 Further Education Services - Advanced Education

3.2.3 Student Finance Board - Advanced Education

3.2.4 Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (VRDP) Program - Manpower

3.2.1 ALBERTA CAREER CENTRES

Program/Service Description:

The mandate of the Alberta Career Centres, administered by Alberta Manpower, is to make career information and counselling readily available. These services are available to all Albertans, including persons with disabilities. While many of the services of the Centres are delivered on a group basis, persons may receive individual assistance in the areas of career planning, access to education/training resources, and referral services. If an individual's disability precludes their access to an Alberta Career Centre office, a counsellor will meet at some other suitable location.

The program serves the Province through sixteen offices.

Eligibility Criteria:

All adult Albertans are eligible for the services of Alberta Career Centres.

Contact Person:

Phone or write a career counsellor at the nearest Alberta Career Centre.

		PHONE:
Hot Line:		422-4266
Bonnyville:	Box 1798 101 Admin. Building 5008-50 Avenue Bonnyville, Alberta T0A 0L0	826-4175
Calgary:	2nd Floor, 805-9th Street, S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 2Y6	297-6347
Camrose:	B110 Provincial Building 4867-50 Street Camrose, Alberta T4V 1P6	679-1275
Edmonton:	101 Sun Building 10363-108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1L8	427-5659

		PHONE:
Fort McMurray:	7th Floor, West Tower Jubilee Centre 9915 - Franklin Avenue T9H 2K4	743-7207
Grande Prairie:	Rm 1201, Provincial Building 10320-99 Street Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 6J4	538-5348
High Level:	2nd Floor Provincial Building 9811-101 Street High Level, Alberta T0H 1Z0	926-2661
Hinton:	Promway Building 112 McLeod Avenue Hinton, Alberta T0E 1B0	865-3361
Lethbridge:	400 Professional Building 740 - 4th Avenue South Bag Service 3014 Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4C7	381-5444
Lloydminister:	Resource Service Centre 5704-44 Street Lloydminster Alberta T9V 0M3	875-5506
Medicine Hat:	302 Provincial Building 770-6th Street, S.W. Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4J6	529-3683
Peace River:	3rd Floor, Provincial Bldg. P.O. Box 2 Bag 900 Kit's Building 10016-101 Street Peace River, Alberta T0H 2X0	624-6211
Pincher Creek:	226 Provincial Building 782 Main Street Box 2138 Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0	627-3922

		PHONE:
Red Deer:	3rd Floor, West Provincial Building 4920-51 Street Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6K8	340-5353
Slave Lake:	Box 787 2nd Floor SLD Building Slave Lake, Alberta T0G 2A0	849-7220
St. Paul:	Box 1989 100 Melenchuk's Mall St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0	645-6383

3.2.2 FURTHER EDUCATION SERVICES

Program/Service Description:

This program provides incentive grants for further education courses approved by local Further Education Councils. Special grants can be provided to subsidize programs designed for individuals with special education needs, including those with physical or mental disabilities.

Local hosting authorities, on approval by the local Further Education Council and Advanced Education, may receive instructional funding for Special Non-Credit Further Education courses that are specific to community needs.

Consideration is given to grants in support of programs for parents of the handicapped or special skill development courses for volunteers.

The service is available provincially through 85 Further Education Councils.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Studies must be part-time, non-credit, and less than 100 hours in duration.

2. Proposals must be endorsed by local Further Education Councils.

Cost to Student:

Fees may be charged for individual courses funded through this service in relation to course costs.

Contact Person:

For further information, contact a local Further Education Council or the Branch directly at the following address:

Director
Further Education Services
Alberta Advanced Education
6th Floor East Tower
11160 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 0L1
Ph: 427-5628

3.2.3 STUDENTS FINANCE BOARD

Program/Service Description:

The mandate of the Board is to ensure that financial need does not act as a barrier to the education of Alberta students. The Board administers a wide array of programs, including guaranteed loan programs, grant plans, and many scholarships and bursaries. For prospective students with disabilities, a special grants program for either full-time or part-time study (to a maximum of $1,000 per semester) may be accessed in addition to any eligibility for the regular programs offered.

The Board operates provincially through its Edmonton and Calgary offices. The services of the Board can also be accessed at most post-secondary educational institutions.

Eligibility Criteria:

To access the Board's special services, all applicants, including disabled individuals, must demonstrate financial need and meet the citizenship and residency requirements as specified by the Board.

Contact Person:

The Edmonton and Calgary offices of the Board can be contacted directly at the addresses given below:

Students Finance Board
10th Floor, Baker Centre
10025-106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 1G7
Ph: 427-2740

Students Finance Board
805-9th Street S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 2Y6
Ph: 297-6344

Students can also contact the Awards Office of most post-secondary educational institutions for information regarding the possibilities for financial assistance.

3.2.4 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PERSONS (VRDP) PROGRAM

Program/Service Description:

The Alberta Government is party to a federal-provincial agreement on shared funding for a comprehensive program of vocational rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. The program's objective is to assist persons with disabilities acquire the skills necessary to become employed.

Alberta Manpower administers the skill training component of the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (VRDP) Program. Services covered by the program consist of vocational assessment, career counselling, and, if training appears to be the most viable alternative, vocational training support and training allowances to program participants. The training segment of the program may take place at universities, technical institutes, colleges, Alberta Vocational Centres, private vocational schools, or specialized classes; or through on-the-job training programs.

Alberta Manpower may also fund experimental programs designed for disabled adults.

The program serves the entire Province and may be accessed through the Alberta Career Centres.

Eligibility Criteria:

Participants must:

1. be an Alberta resident 12 months prior to commencing the program;
2. be a minimum of 18 years of age;
3. have a significant disability, documented by a medical report, that hinders their pursuit of competitive employment; and,
4. undertake vocational counselling to determine appropriate goals.

Contact Person:

Individuals wishing to access this service should contact an Alberta Career Centre (see 2.1 on page 20). Agency personnel wishing information concerning the service may contact:

Director
Vocational Training Services
Alberta Manpower
20th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
T5J 3W5
Ph: 427-7151

IV. CAREER TRAINING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION PERSONNEL

In order to meet the special needs of children and adults with disabilities, the Government of Alberta provides funding to support the career training of special education teachers and other rehabilitation personnel. Over the past several years Alberta Advanced Education and Alberta Manpower, in conjunction with post-secondary institutions, have initiated a range of projects to demonstrate and evaluate the kinds of special education programs required.

Programs:

4.1 Interpreter Training Program - Grant MacEwan Community College.

4.2 Occupational Therapy - The University of Alberta.

4.3 Physical Therapy - The University of Alberta.

4.4 Rehabilitation Services Programs - Alberta Vocational Centre - Lac La Biche and Colleges.

4.5 Rehabilitation Studies Program - The University of Calgary.

4.6 Rural Special Education Outreach Project - The University of Lethbridge.

4.7 Speech Pathology and Audiology - The University of Alberta.

4.8 Teachers of the Hearing Impaired - The University of Alberta.

4.9 Teachers of the Multiple Dependent Handicapped - The University of Alberta.

4.1 INTERPRETER TRAINING PROGRAM
Grant MacEwan Community College

Program/Service Description:

This ten month program, funded by Alberta Manpower, is designed to provide the skill training required to prepare interpreters for entry into the field. Graduates receive a College Certificate upon successful completion of the program.

The curriculum is divided into four areas: interpreting skills, language skills (American Sign Language and English), deaf culture, and professional ethics. Students observe, are critiqued, and refine their skills through in-class experience and practicum placements.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. A comprehensive working knowledge of both English and American Sign Language.

2. As applicants must pass an intensive screening and interview process, prior experience, human relation skills, and motivation are essential attributes for acceptance to the program.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Contact Person:

Senior Instructor
Interpreter Training Program
Grant MacEwan Community College - Cromdale Campus
8020 - 118 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5B 0R8
Ph: 474-8521

4.2 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
The University of Alberta

Program/Service Description:

Occupational Therapy is a four-year undergraduate program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. The program involves a preprofessional year prior to admission, followed by three years of study of the human body and mind, and therapeutic approaches to illness and disability. The curriculum is divided between theory, laboratory and fieldwork.

Commencing July 1986 through till 1988-89, an alternate B.Sc. program will be offered to allow qualified students an "accelerated" route through the same program but over a condensed 24 month period.

A program leading to a M.Sc. degree is also offered to provide students the opportunity to specialize in such areas as work evaluation, psychosocial dysfunction and life span development. The program generally requires two years of study following an undergraduate degree.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Admission requirements for the basic B.Sc. in Occupational Therapy are based on academic performance over one year of university in which five full course equivalents are taken, including: Occth 206/207, Psyco 260/261 and one full year laboratory science.

2. Admission requirements for the accelerated B.Sc. in Occupational Therapy are based on academic performance over a minimum of two years university in which ten full course equivalents are taken. Applicants must have completed Psyco 260/261, one full laboratory science, Soc 403 or other introductory sociology, and a half course in statistics.

3. Admission requirements for the M.Sc. program are based on academic performance. Applicants will normally hold a bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Contact Person:

Enquiries regarding admission requirements, quota, application deadlines and minimum GPA should be directed to the following:

Department of Occupational Therapy
Room 308 Corbett Hall
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2G4
Ph: 432-2499

4.3 PHYSICAL THERAPY
The University of Alberta

Program/Service Description:

Physical Therapy is a four year undergraduate program leading to a B.Sc. degree. This program prepares the graduate to work with children and adults in need of acute care, restorative rehabilitation, management of injuries due to accidents, sports and recreational injuries, and therapy following degeneration and medical conditions.

The program is designed to develop therapeutic skills in the treatment of patients, to increase the student's ability to make sound judgements based on critical thinking, and to widen the student's academic background.

A program leading to a M.Sc. degree is also offered to provide students the opportunity to specialize in such areas as orthopaedics, sports therapy and therapeutic exercise. The program generally requires two years of study following an undergraduate degree.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Admission to the program for all applicants will be based on academic standing and an interview. All applicants must have their senior matriculation. High school students must have taken English 30, Math 30 and Physics 30; Biology and Chemistry 30 are also recommended. University transfer students must have completed a minimum of five full course equivalents at university and must also have taken English 30, Math 30 and Physics 30 in their senior matriculation.

2. Admission requirements for the M.Sc. program are based on academic performance. Applicants normally hold a bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Contact Person:

Enquiries regarding admission requirements, interview, quota, application deadlines and minimum GPA should be directed to the following:

Department of Occupational Therapy
Room 210 Corbett Hall
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2G4
Ph: 432-5983

4.4 REHABILITATION SERVICES PROGRAMS

Program/Service Description:

The Rehabilitation Services Programs are designed to prepare rehabilitation practitioners to work in a variety of vocational, residential and educational settings. Graduates have competencies in the design, conduct and evaluation of programs, with an emphasis on providing necessary services and teaching specific skills to persons who are developmentally disabled.

Graduates are frequently employed by private agencies and the provincial government in programs which provide residential, vocational and independent living services. In addition, many rehabilitation practitioners find employment in special education programs operated by local school jurisdictions. The working titles of graduates may include rehabilitation practitioner, rehabilitation counsellor, behavioral counsellor, or developmental assistant.

Rehabilitation Service Programs are offered through seven post-secondary institutions in the Province. Four of these programs are two-year diploma programs, while three are one-year certificate programs.

Eligibility Criteria:

Although specific criteria vary somewhat among programs depending upon post-secondary institutions, students are generally required to have a high school diploma, or have mature adult status, be physically and mentally healthy and be motivated to work with persons who are disabled. Some programs expect candidates to have related work experience.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Contact Person:

For further information, contact the coordinator of the Rehabilitation Services Program at the following institutions:

Certificate Programs

Alberta Vocational Centre
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0
Ph: 623-5562

Grande Prairie Regional College
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 4C4
Ph: 539-6330

Medicine Hat College
299 College Drive
Medicine Hat, Alberta
T1A 3Y6
Ph: 529-3947

Diploma Programs

Grant MacEwan Community College
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2P2
Ph: 462-5640

Lethbridge Community College
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1K 1L6
Ph: 329-7224

Mount Royal College
4825 Richard Road S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T3E 6K6
Ph: 240-6983

Red Deer College
Red Deer, Alberta
T4N 5H5
Ph: 342-3284

4.5 REHABILITATION STUDIES PROGRAM
The University of Calgary

Program/Service Description:

This program offers a multi-disciplinary approach to rehabilitation education at the university level. The program provides an opportunity for paraprofessionals and professionals in the field to increase their skills through advanced training at the bachelor, graduate diploma, master and doctoral levels. It also includes a new four year B.Ed. in Rehabilitation Education (non-teaching) component that prepares graduates for work in a variety of rehabilitation settings. Those students interested in becoming certified teachers should enrol in the B.Ed. (Special Education) program, in which a number of rehabilitation courses may be taken.

Graduates of college Rehabilitation Service programs may be eligible for advanced credit recognition in the Rehabilitation Studies Program.

Several courses are cross-listed between faculties to offer B.Ed. and B.S.W. graduates a concentration in Rehabilitation Studies; specializations or concentrations are also available at the graduate level in Educational Psychology and the M.S.W. program.

Eligibility Criteria:

Admission is competitive and candidates are selected on the basis of their potential to provide professional leadership in their chosen area of specialization.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Special Teachers of the Handicapped Bursaries are available to eligible, employed and certified teachers. Bursaries to a maximum of $10,000 per year are available. Further information can be obtained through the Special Education Services Branch of Alberta Education, or the Students Finance Board.

Contact Person:

Coordinator
Rehabilitation Studies
Department of Educational Psychology
The University of Calgary
2500 University Drive, N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2N 1N4
Ph: 220-5661

4.6 RURAL SPECIAL EDUCATION OUTREACH PROJECT
The University of Lethbridge

Program/Service Description:

This demonstration project is designed to provide continuing education and in-service training to meet the unique needs of special education teachers in rural southern Alberta.

The project's primary objectives are:

(a) to provide both credit and non-credit training to rural special education teachers as requested; and,

(b) to facilitate sharing professional information and curriculum materials between teachers and the University through a microcomputer network presently under development.

The project consists of three parts:

1. Coordinating and arranging continuing education and in-service training.

2. A resource bank that lists various specialists available to provide consultation to school jurisdictions.

3. A resource bank describing curriculum, resource materials, training modules and remedial techniques available to teachers of students with disabilities.

Much of the resource material is catalogued, managed and transferred from the University to schools using a micro-computer network.

Contact Person:

Coordinator
Rural Special Education Outreach Program
Faculty of Education
University of Lethbridge
4401 University Drive
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1K 3M4
Ph: 329-2734

4.7 SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
The University of Alberta

Program/Service Description:

The Speech Pathology and Audiology program is designed to develop clinical competencies in the areas of Speech Pathology through an undergraduate program leading to a B.Sc. degree. The existing program does not qualify students to work as audiologists. Graduates from the program will be expected to demonstrate a knowledge of human behavior, learning principles; normal processes of speech, hearing and language; factors and conditions which cause and perpetuate disorders of speech, hearing and language; and theoretical and methodological considerations in the rehabilitation of communicative disorders in children and adults.

A program leading to a M.Sc. degree is also offered to provide students the opportunity to specialize in such areas as stuttering, motor speech disorders, language development and disorders, and craniofacial anomalies. The program generally requires two years of study following an undergraduate degree.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Admission requirements for the B.Sc. in Speech Pathology and Audiology are based on academic performance over one year of university in which five full course equivalents are taken, including SPA 280/281 and Psyco 260/261.

2. Admission requirements for the M.Sc. program are based on academic performance. Applicants will normally hold a bachelor's degree in speech pathology.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Contact Person:

Enquiries regarding admission requirements, quota, application deadline and minimum GPA should be directed to the following:

Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology
Room 400, Garneau Professional Centre
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
Ph: 432-5990

4.8 TEACHERS OF THE HEARING IMPAIRED
The University of Alberta

Program/Service Description:

This is a professional program for teachers who intend to work with students who are hearing impaired. The purpose of the program is to prepare qualified teachers of the hearing impaired and specialized researchers, administrators and psychoeducational consultants.

Training is designed to promote and support the educational integration of hearing impaired students into classrooms in the least restrictive settings.

The program also provides an opportunity for special education teachers to upgrade their competencies through supervised practicum experiences. To accommodate the varying backgrounds and interests of the students, the program provides two advanced training routes:

(a) a graduate diploma - designed for students primarily concerned with teaching the hearing impaired. It can be completed in fourteen months.

(b) M.Ed. in Deaf Education - a two-year program designed for teachers, administrators, consultants and research personnel.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. For the diploma program, students require a 6.5 GPA, a teaching certificate, plus two years teaching experience.

2. Acceptance to the M.Ed. program requires a minimum 7.5 GPA and an undergraduate degree.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Special Teachers of the Handicapped Bursaries are available to eligible, employed and certified teachers. Bursaries to a maximum of $10,000 per year are available. Further information can be obtained through the Special Education Services Branch of Alberta Education, or the Students Finance Board.

Contact Person:

Coordinator
Hearing Impaired Program
Department of Educational Psychology
6-102 Education North
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2B7
Ph: 432-5213

4.9 TEACHERS OF THE MULTIPLE DEPENDENT HANDICAPPED
The University of Alberta

Program/Service Description:

This is an advanced training program for special education teachers who intend to work with students who have severe and multiple handicaps.

To accommodate the varying backgrounds and interests of students, the program provides two advanced training routes:

(a) a one year diploma program for teachers of the multiple, dependent handicapped; and,

(b) a two year Master program for teachers, administrators and consultants.

Both routes provide comprehensive training in curriculum development, instructional and behavioral management, and assessment techniques required to work with various age levels of individuals with severe or profound levels of sensory, physical, communicative, intellectual, and behavioral disorders.

Eligibility Criteria:

Requirements for students entering the Diploma or the Master program include:

1. an undergraduate degree (preferably in special education); and,
2. a professional teaching certificate.

Practical experience with the multiple, dependent handicapped is preferred. Applicants to the Master program should further note that although a teaching certificate is not required, it is recommended.

Cost to Student:

Normal tuition fees apply.

Special Teachers of the Handicapped Bursaries are available to eligible, employed and certified teachers. Bursaries to a maximum of $10,000 per year are available. Further information can be obtained through the Special Education Services Branch of Alberta Education, or the Students Finance Board.

Contact Person:

Coordinator
Department of Educational Psychology
6-102 Education North
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2G5
Ph: 432-3755

V. RELATED ACTIVITIES OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Various other government departments offer related or complementary programs and services designed specifically for persons with disabilities.

5.1 Alberta Manpower*

The Department of Manpower offers a number of job creation and training programs to Albertans, through which the needs of persons with disabilities may be addressed. For information pertaining to special manpower programs, see the Alberta Manpower brochure, "Job Creation and Training Programs", or contact:

Director
Employment Initiatives Branch
17th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3W5
Ph: 422-1184

The Department also assumes provincial-wide responsibility for the provision of apprenticeship and trade services to various special target groups, including persons with disabilities. For information concerning these services, contact:

Director
Programs for the Disadvantaged
20th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3W5
Ph: 422-9004

---

*At the time of publication of this guide, legislation was under review recommending a Departmental title change from Alberta Manpower to Alberta Career Development and Employment.

5.2 Alberta Social Services

The Department of Social Services provides a comprehensive system of vocational rehabilitation programs primarily for persons with moderate and severe disabilities.

Programs and services funded by Alberta Social Services are primarily delivered through community-based non-profit organizations. Six areas of services are provided:

1. activity training,
2. vocational training,
3. vocational rehabilitation,
4. research and demonstration,
5. developmental activity, and
6. counselling and placement.

For a listing of departmental and community programs and services designed to meet the needs of persons with disabilities, see the reference guide, A Guide to Services for Disabled Albertans, produced by Alberta Social Services. Persons wishing to receive a copy of the publication may do so by contacting:

Public Communications
7th Floor, Centre West
10030 - 107 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3E4
Ph: 427-4801

5.3 Canada Employment and Immigration

The Federal Government provides assistance in career planning, job placement, and work experience. Information concerning these activities is available through the departmental publication, Working Employment Programs and Services for Disabled Persons. Persons requesting this publication or additional information should contact their local Canada Employment Office or the Special Needs Unit of Canada Employment and Immigration directly:

Calgary: Sam Livingston Building
510 12 Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2R 0X5
Ph: 292-4082

Edmonton: 10704 - 102 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 0G2
Ph: 420-2280

Alberta NEWS RELEASE

EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE # 16 For Release: 8:15 a.m., Tuesday, September 13, 1983

EDMONTON -- An agreement concerning the education and training of mentally handicapped adult Albertans was announced today by the ministers of Education, Advanced Education, Manpower and Social Services and Community Health.

Alberta Advanced Education is responsible for providing college and Alberta Vocational Centre programs to mildly mentally handicapped students who would benefit from a one or two-year vocational program prior to employment or more advanced training.

Adults who require a longer period of instruction and practice before they are able to proceed to employment or more advanced training are eligible for vocational training and activity programs offered by community agencies. These are the responsibility of Alberta Social Services and Community Health.

Social Services and Community Health will also arrange programs for adults who are residents in a departmental facility and who would not benefit from community-based programs.

Alberta Manpower will provide student allowances and tuition support for eligible students attending post-secondary institutions. Alberta Manpower Career Centres, located in 13 centres across the province, also provide career counselling services.

. . . / 2

Alberta Education funds school boards for educational programs for mentally handicapped students up to the age of 18, except for those requiring 24-hour institutional care, 24-hour nursing or medical care, or both. For those over 18, school boards provide programs at their discretion, with funding from Alberta Education according to established guidelines.

In making the announcement, Education Minister David King said: "In the past few years, there has been an increasing demand for education and training of mentally handicapped adult Albertans.

"I expect an improved understanding of the educational opportunities available to mentally handicapped adults in Alberta will enable this population to access the programs and services that are available."

- 30 -

Sarah Jones
Public Affairs Officer
Alberta Education
Telephone: (403) 427-2285

Jim Dau
Media Relations
Alberta Social Services and
Community Health
Telephone: (403) 422-2048

Ralph Westwood
Program Consultant
Alberta Advanced Education
Telephone: (403) 427-5634

Gillian Garner
Communications Director
Alberta Manpower
Telephone: (403) 422-4495

TERMS OF REFERENCE

REGIONAL INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF DISABLED ADULTS

Purpose: To coordinate interdepartmental provision of regional educational and training services for handicapped adults, with the four provincial departments involved.

Membership:
Advanced Education
Education
Manpower
Social Services

Note: These are core terms of reference which apply to all Regional Interdepartmental Committees. Each Regional Committee may opt to add other responsibilities which are deemed appropriate.

Terms of Reference

1. Provide a forum for communication between the four departments involved.
2. Be informed on the relevant policies of the departments and the services that they provide.
3. Clarify and operationalize interdepartmental goals and agreements.
4. Implement interdepartmental policy.
5. Ensure public awareness of programs available, application procedures, and mechanisms of service coordination.
6. Plan and coordinate interdepartmental service delivery.
7. Work to ensure the effectiveness of Regional Interdepartmental Committee in coordinating the required exchange of information to plan services.
8. Assess annually the present and future demand for services, and the capacity of the education/training programs to meet the demand.
9. Advise appropriate departments of the services that may be required to meet the present and future needs of the individuals in the region.
10. Serve as a second level of review for parents/clients of individuals transferring from Education not satisfied with the provision of authorized services.